

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Jim R. Esquea, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation, who was introduced by Senator Conrad, Ellen Gloninger Murray, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Resources and Technology, who was introduced by Senator Harkin, and Bryan Hayes Samuels, of Illinois, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, all of the Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection concluded a hearing to examine drought, flooding and refugees, focusing on the impacts of climate change, after receiving testimony from General Charles F. Wald, USAF (Ret.), former Deputy Commander of United States European Command, on behalf of the CNA Military Advisory Board; and Reverend Jim Ball, Evangelical Environmental Network, David Waskow, Oxfam America, Kenneth P. Green, American Enterprise Institute, and Peter O'Driscoll, ActionAid USA, all of Washington, D.C.

RADIO BROADCASTING IN WAR ZONES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy, and Global Women's Issues concluded a hearing to examine United States international broadcasting into the war zones, focusing on Iraq and Afghanistan, after receiving testimony from Jeffrey Hirschberg, Governor and Chair of the Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty Subcommittee, Joaquin Blaya, Governor and Chair of the Middle East Subcommittee, and Steven Simmons, Governor and Chair of the Voice of America Subcommittee, all of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, Washington, D.C.

DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine do-

mestic partner benefits, including S. 1102, to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees, after receiving testimony from Representative Baldwin; John Berry, Director, United States Office of Personnel Management; and William H. Hendrix III, The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan.

HEALTH CARE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine equal health care for equal premiums, focusing on women, after receiving testimony from James Guest, Consumers Union, Yonkers, New York; Marcia D. Greenberger, National Women's Law Center, Janice Shaw Crouse, Concerned Women for America Beverly LaHaye Institute, Diana Furchtgott-Roth, Hudson Institute, and Karen Ignagni, America's Health Insurance Plans, all of Washington, D.C.; Amanda Buchanan, Weiser, Idaho; and Peggy Robertson, Centennial, Colorado.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 369, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 379, to provide fair compensation to artists for use of their sound recordings, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Jacqueline H. Nguyen and Dolly M. Gee, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, and Edward Milton Chen and Richard Seeborg, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.